DialPad

Introduction
Welcome to Version 2.2 of Dialpad. It's written in Delphi, so it doesn't need any nasty horrible DLL or VBX files. This version doesn't require a tones file: the tones are stored as resources. Also, it has storage space for 100 numbers, organised into 10 folders.

The major change for this version is that Dialpad now supports modem dialing. Simply choose your desired dial type before you dial. COM 1-4 are supported.

Just as a comparison for interest, here are some file sizes...
1 file required for Dialpad 2.1 (written in Borland Delphi): 355 Kb uncompressed.
5 files required for Dialpad 1.2 (written in Microsoft Visual Basic): 319 Kb uncompressed. Also needs VBRUN300.DLL, which is 398 Kb.

DialPad is a small utility I wrote on the 19th of August 1995 for something to do. I then got bored after my exams, and on the 28th of November 1995 I tightened up the code and got rid of all those nasty .wav files... Version 1.2 was born. After getting to know Delphi a bit better, I created Dialpad 2.0 after a few nights effort (not too hard when you have the idea already existing as a program). Dialpad 2.2 came from user suggestions, that I incorporate the tones as resources. DialPad is freeware. You don't have to pay anything for it, and you don't have to feel guilty about that.

Setup
Well... If you are reading this you have obviously already unzipped the .zip file. No tedious instructions about making sure this file and that file are in *x* and *y* directories (unlike earlier versions). All you need is the .EXE file. If you are upgrading from version 2.0, put your DIALPAD.INI file into the same directory as DIALPAD.EXE and your quickdial numbers will stay the same. Put an icon in Program Manager if you wish. If you have any sense you will put it in your OS/2 Warp LaunchPad (extremely subtle hint as to preferred operating system of author). Under no circumstances may this application be referred to in any menu hierachy going under the name of "Start". This is under threat of legal action*.

Operation
DialPad is pretty simple to operate. It is a phone dialer that needs either a sound device or a modem. To change the way it dials, right-click the Dial button. This brings a pop-up menu to choose the dial mode.

Speaker
You need a touch-tone phone (the one that plays the funny beeps when you fiddle with the buttons - don't lie to me, I know you do it!) and an MCI sound

driver. Just enter the number you want (or use the QuickDial buttons) and then hold the phone up to the speaker and press Dial.

Modem
Make sure you have the right COM port selected, enter your number and click Dial. When the computer tells you to pick up the phone, get up and walk around a banana three times. (Actually, you pick up the phone, surprise surprise).

Redial brings up the last number you dialed, etc etc. It basically behaves like a phone. If you can't understand this, e-mail me. Don't expect a helpfile - the program isn't really difficult enough to need one (I hope).

Licencing Restrictions
Umm... There aren't any. This is freeware. No source code this time: I'm not sure it would be worthwhile to anyone. Once you get past the needlessly repeating statements you'll be asleep anyway. However, it would be nice to hear if this program is put on a CD or anything.

Registering
Didn't you hear me? This is freeware, you don't need to register!!! Oh, it's me writing... Oh well, back to the padded cell... *Before I go, though, anyone who e-mails me and says "I've used DialPad" will be considered registered, and will be told when I convert this to Delphi and make it really fast and lean*. This statement was written in the readme for version 1.2. Now I have converted it to Delphi, all my commentators will be receiving a notification. Maybe one day I'll write a native Windows 95 version... And one day, maybe you'll need an anti-aircraft gun to go pig hunting. The statement still applies, however... I'd really like to hear about users of this utility. You don't have to like it, just tell me if you used it and how you felt...

Support
If you have any questions, problems, suggestions, comments, or whatever, please send them to me at matthew@reap.org.nz. Thank you for reading this doc file/tirade.

Matthew Leigh
Author of DialPad

Version History
Version 2.2
Got lost among Gold versions, etc. Couldn't remember latest uploaded version. All changes are incorporated into this version.

Version 2.1
Added modem support. Incorporated tones into the .exe file.

Version 2.0
Written in Delphi. Also, a much tidier interface, with less wasted space. Much smaller on screen, and uses folders to make room for 100 quickdial numbers.

Version 1.2
Changes from mciSendString to sndPlaySound for playing the .wavs. (This actually happened in version 1.15, but I was just mucking around and no-one ever saw that version). Also a major change - all the .wav files DialPad uses are stored in one .dat file. Read the datmake.txt file in source.zip for a description of how to do it (dead easy).

Version 1.1
Cleaned up the interface somewhat, adding two extra QuickDial buttons. I'm looking at making a 100 button palette, with the bottom button space (just before Edit QuickDial Buttons) used for scrolling up/down... The theoretical limit is 32767 QuickDial buttons, but the .ini file would be several megs big, and memory would be a constraint. At present, the program loads all the QuickDials in at load time for performance reasons. This may have to change... Oh, and this version included a .dll that the program needs... :)

Version 1.0
Original public release. Earlier versions used to exist, but I had a hard drive clean out... Oops... Just remember this, folks - backup BEFORE the hard drive clean out! Fortunately, they were useless.

* Small note - either take this as a joke, or get a life. Seriously though, my recommendation is to have DialPad either running all the time or on the desktop for easy access.